

## **2015 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **HOWE S&G ALLOTMENT**

This is your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Howe S&G Allotment. A new process has been applied for AOIs this season. We are including a signature page at the end of each AOI which we are requesting permittees sign and return to the district. This signature page also includes the signatures of the district ranger and current range management specialist overseeing the allotment. We believe that this process better represents the cooperative nature of managing these areas and indicates an understanding of the information in this document as well as the information in your term grazing permit(s).

Your Term Grazing Permit is an on/off permit ran in conjunction with adjoining BLM rangelands. You are permitted for 200 head from October 1 to December 31. Actual on-dates are dependant on range readiness and actual off-dates are dependant on when allowable use is reached.

Bed sheep only one night per bed ground, and move salt locations each year to avoid creating a permanent salt lick in any one location. Once the allowable use level in any particular area is reached all your sheep must be moved to the next area of the allotment. Sheep are allowed to graze one time once-over-lightly. Upland grass utilization should not exceed 50% of current annual production at end of season. Once the allowable use level of 50% of current annual production on upland grasses is achieved in key areas sheep must be moved regardless of how much feed is left. Sheep use on ranges already grazed is not authorized. When proper use in the last area scheduled for use is achieved, sheep must be removed from the allotment.

The grazing fees for the 2015 season are \$1.69/head month. Your grazing fee payment will need to be received prior to turning livestock out on the National Forest. Receipt of payment could take up to 2 weeks from the date payment is sent.

At the end of the grazing season you will be receiving an INDIVIDUAL ACTUAL USE REPORT. You will need to provide a record of the dates your sheep enter the allotment, dates they leave the allotment, and a record of losses. The report is a requirement of the special terms and conditions of your term grazing permit. Please return this report to the Lost River Ranger District office in a timely manner.

If you have any questions about this plan, please contact Diane Weaver or the Rangeland Management Specialist at the Lost River Ranger District office (208) 588-3400.